



H.R. 3375 – Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Reauthorization Act

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3375 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Wally Herger (R-CA) on August 3, 2007. The House Ways and Means Committee approved the bill by voice vote on September 18, 2007.

H.R. 3375 is expected to be considered on the floor on September 25, 2007.

BACKGROUND

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program is designed to assist workers who have lost jobs or work hours due to increased imports. The program provides job training assistance, income support, a job search allowance, and relocation reimbursement for qualified applicants for a certain period of time. Workers who qualify are also eligible for a tax credit to help cover the cost of purchasing health care coverage.

The program was established by the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. It was most recently reauthorized and expanded in 2002 by P.L. 107-210.

According to Rep. Wally Herger, the Ranking Republican on the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee, "TAA can be a valuable tool for getting people retrained and back to work quickly, providing income support in the interim. But, TAA's annual cost of nearly \$1 billion means that any expansion must be done in a cost conscious manner focusing on actual results, particularly because less than 3 percent of long term job loss is due to trade."

SUMMARY

H.R. 3375 provides a short-term, 90-day extension for the Trade Adjustment Assistance program. Under the bill, these authorities will expire on December 31, 2007.

COST

According to the Congressional Budget Office, implementing H.R. 3375 would increase discretionary spending by \$4 million in FY2008 and would add \$9 million in mandatory spending in FY2008.

[CBO Estimate – H.R. 3375, Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Reauthorization Act](#)

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